

Urban Wildlife Photo Club

February 2023 Newsletter

Next Membership Meeting: **February 13th, 2023**

Online at 7:00 PM

SEE BELOW FOR MEETING INFORMATION

Club Contact Information

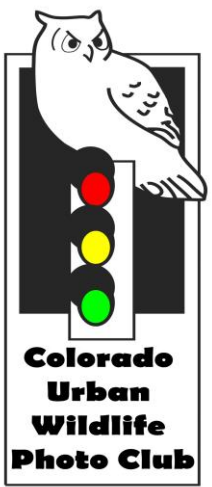
Address: COUWPC
PO Box 270501
Louisville, CO 80027-0501
Email: uwpc@comcast.net Website <http://www.couwpc.com>

February meeting will be virtual only. Our speaker would like to be remote and driving in February can be "interesting." A Zoom link for the online meeting will be sent out a few days before the meeting and again as a reminder a few hours before the meeting.

DUES: Dues for 2023 are due March 1. As we mentioned in the General Membership Meeting summary, we have restructured our dues; \$30.00 for an individual or \$35.00 for a couple. Please bring a check to the March meeting or mail it to the P O Box shown above.

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February Program

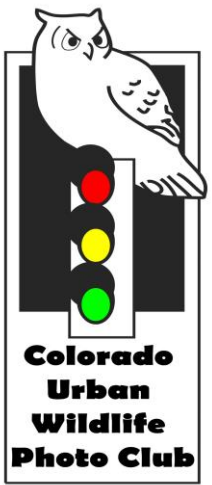
Wild Horse

Photography and Advocacy - Carol Walker

Carol will talk about how she finds, follows and photographs wild horses in Colorado and Wyoming as well as how advocacy supports her photography, and her photography aids in protecting her subjects.

She will also outline places to go to photograph wild horses, as well as some guidelines and suggestions for photographing them. There is a slideshow of her work that she will show as well.

Bio: Carol Walker's passion for photography started at an early age, with animals as her favorite subjects. She studied literature and photography as an undergraduate at Smith College and continued her education in photography after graduating, studying portraiture and nature photography. She has traveled all over the world photographing wildlife for the past 35 years. In 2000, Carol started her business Living Images by Carol Walker, specializing in photographing horses. Eighteen years ago, Carol began photographing wild horses. As she followed several herds in Wyoming, Colorado, and Montana, she became aware of how precarious their situation on public lands has become. Since then, she has dedicated herself to educating people with her photographs and stories about wild horses. Carol sees her artwork as an ideal vehicle for enhancing and expressing her advocacy for wild horses and the proceeds from the sales of her artwork and books fund her mission. As one of the leading advocates for America's wild horses, she dedicates herself to stopping their roundup and removal from America's public lands and keeping them wild and free.



MEMBER MONTHLY IMAGE SUBMISSION

Members and first-time guests are encouraged to submit images for a gentle critique. We are not a competitive club, but we do strive to help our members learn and improve their photographic skills. Guidelines are below.

We have both open and theme image categories:
January Critique and Theme images due by **February 6th**

Send to: uwpcimages@comcast.net

February Theme: Snow and Ice

March Theme: Conservation (the good, the bad, and the ugly)

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS FOR IMAGE LABELING, ESPECIALLY THE USE OF SPECIAL CHARACTERS (NO @) AND NAMING NEEDS. If I get really busy, I may not be able to accept images that don't follow these "rules."

PLEASE ADHERE TO THE DATE & SIZE REQUESTED -1MB or less

Two categories at each meeting - THEMED AND OPEN

- Maximum of 4 images total and no more than one themed image
- Email files one week before the scheduled meeting to uwpcimages@comcast.net Please use this one!
- Send themed category images in an email titled 'themed images'
- Send open category images in an email titled 'critique images'
- If your image is selected to appear on the club website, the website caption will be derived from the file name. **Be sure that your name and the image title as you would like them to appear on the website are included in the file name.** Use only letters (a-z and A-Z), numerals (0-9), dashes (-), underscores (_), and the single dot before ".jpg" in file names. Avoid using blanks. Use dashes (-) underscores (_) and capitalization to indicate word boundaries (e.g. Bob_Dean-Trees_In_Snow.jpg or BobDean-TreesInSnow.jpg). It is acceptable to include other information that identifies the image in file names, but you risk the possibility that this information will be misinterpreted by the webmaster. Although it's unlikely, the image BobDean_TreesInSnow_27583.jpg might end up on the website with the title "Trees in Snow 27853."



MEMBER MONTHLY IMAGE SUBMISSION CONT'D

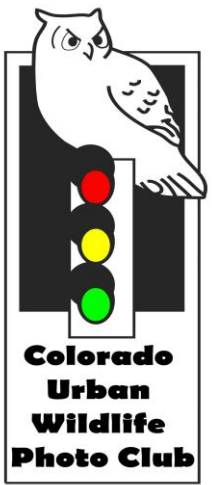
OPTIONAL Descriptive information for each *critique image* should be as follows:

Exposure data should, for example, include f/stop, shutter speed, ISO, any exposure compensation, and any filter information. Post processing enhancements should include only those things beyond simply cropping, sharpening, noise reduction, etc. such as HDR, panorama work, color enhancements, exposure changes, etc. If you can put the image data (if you choose to include it) **as text** in the body of the email as opposed to an attached word or excel file, it would be appreciated! Makes life easier if everyone does the same thing.

Sample table for exposure details

IMAGE	IMAGE TITLE	SPECIES	LOCATION	CAMERA	LENS	EXPOSURE DATA	POST PROCESSING ENHANCEMENTS
Critique 1							
Critique 2							
Critique 3							

Please don't use an @ in the exposure information as when I copy it into the slide presentation, the computer sees it as an email address, and I need to retype rather than copy.



We have a new feature our websites and, in the newsletter: “Location Temptation”

We introduced this feature a while back with hopes that we would get submissions from our members. This is a great opportunity to share your favorite relatively local photo spot. Check out the website for an example:

<https://oururbanwildlife.org/san-luis-valley/>

What we are looking for in a submission is open but should include both photographic and logistical information (lodging, food, road issues, sensitive areas, etc.). If you'd like, we can help edit the article so just send in notes, a list of ideas, or a rough draft.

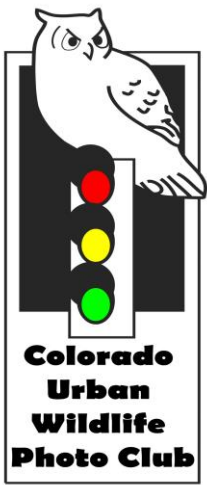
Relatively local is also a bit open. Denver metro is always good, a spot within a few hours drive is also fine. The goal is to share spots that have nice photo ops that are accessible and economical! We've received a couple but have room for lots more.

Send them to me at uwpc@comcast.net and let me know if you'd like some editing. I'll make sure the information goes to the web guys and the newsletter.

Come on folks – let's get behind this project 😊

Announcements and Notes

The other website!



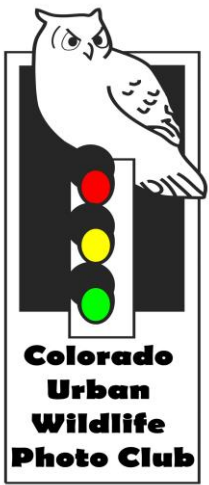
At the January 18th membership general meeting we had a side conversation of what is “appropriate” for this website. We want everyone to know that “urban” does not have to only within developed areas. Any image, blog, article or other contributions that relate to a place near a town or city (not necessarily in Colorado) is fair game!

Contributions to oururbanwildlife.org have been stagnant for a few months. We need contributions. Here are some of the ways that folks could help:

- Contributing photos
- Contributing blog posts (Curtis *might* edit posts, but only lightly for clarity)
- Links to blogs or websites.
- Soliciting others to write blog posts – any friend, acquaintance, or family member with special interest or knowledge of wildlife would be welcome
- Contributing articles
- Finding articles that we can reprint and getting permission to do so.
- Promoting the site to other clubs. I’ve found that promoting the site in person has been more effective than other methods.
- Promoting the site on social media.
- Contacting “celebrity” photographers for contributions – written or photographic. These folks could be known as photographers – such as John Fielder – or known for other work (journalism, politics, business, etc.) with an interest in photography – such as Tom Green on 9 News.

Please consider doing something to help this project along! If you have questions, contributions or ideas and are not sure what to do, contact me at uwpc@comcast.net or Curtis Johnson at curtis.e.johnson@comcast.net

PHOTO CONTESTS



Some thoughts on Photo Contests:

Whenever you think about entering a photo contest you should very carefully read the Ts and Cs. I know that the legalese can be daunting but there are a lot of contests out there that are a “rights grab.” Make sure that the ones you enter specifically lay out the image ownership agreement. Whenever you send in images to a contest you are entering into a contract. You really should consider only those contests that have very limited usage of your photos and state in their rules that YOU retain full ownership of the image. When you read the fine print on image usage, watch out for those contests that demand the right to use all your entries for their own purposes, not just the winners.

BBC Wildlife Magazine Monthly Photo on-going Contest Information at:

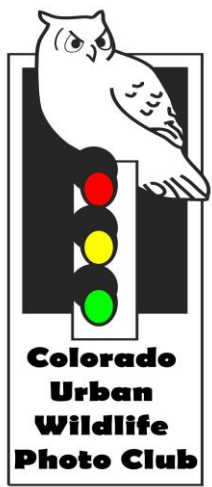
<http://www.discoverwildlife.com/your-photos/photo-contest>

Contest Information Website;

If you'd like a resource that has just about all the contests out there, take a look at Photo Contest Insider at

<https://www.photocontestinsider.com/contest/all-themes/>

Announcements and Notes



Summary of the January 18th General Membership Meeting
(Same as the email of January 19th)

We had a really good meeting on Jan 18th. We had about 25 members log in to the Zoom call and participation was lively and enthusiastic. The discussions and decisions centered around how we can keep UWPC going and improve the experience for all our members. Here is a summary:

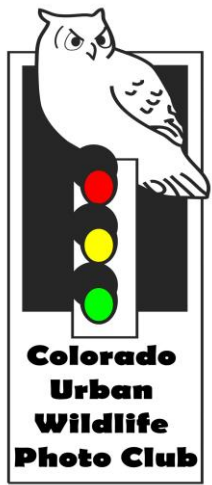
Thanks to Curtis Johnson, Bob Stocker, and Fred Krampetz for their efforts on websites and getting speakers.

Folks think I do too much, and we need others to take on some of the work.

The real attraction that members have to our club is the non-competitive and welcoming nature, the gentle critiques, and the overall fun social atmosphere. Getting back to having field trips and outings was brought up as a way to improve.

The club finances are OK for now, but current dues and number of members will not support our club beyond 2023. This is driven by our space rental cost, speaker honorariums and some fixed costs. We also want to continue to support the annual Share the View contest. There was unanimous support to increase our dues to address these costs and to bring us in line with other camera clubs, to \$30.00 per person and \$35.00 per couple. This will be effective starting this March when annual dues are "due."

Announcements and Notes



To continue, we need to grow. The idea of a marketing person was bought up and again was supported. The first step in getting a marketing effort going is to resurrect, revise and modernize the brochure we developed quite a while back. This will be a process we hope to start right away. I sent the draft brochure to everyone and asked for feedback by February 3rd.

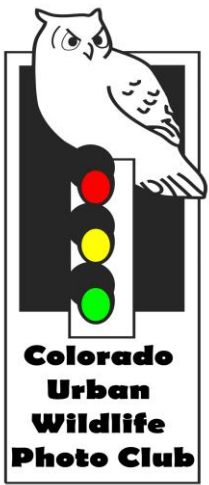
We hope to finalize the brochure and have it printed in time for the Share the View Gala on March 16th.

We need to continue to have great monthly programs. Our club as well as many other clubs, is having difficulty getting speakers. After COVID, many potential speakers are back out in the field and are limited in their available time for speaking.

Other ideas on growth included:

- Distribute the brochure to camera stores (Mike's and Englewood Camera are two that came to mind).
- We need to attract younger people, possibly by updating and maintaining our club Facebook page, offering more field trips and outings – both one day and some overnight trips.
- Investigate opportunities to create and display images at venues such as local libraries.
- Stress through all our outreach paths the fact that we are non-competitive and a laidback, fun, and welcoming group and live up to those ideas when new folks attend.
- Perhaps find a way to attract people whose "camera" is a smartphone.

Announcements and Notes



Action items:

- The brochure
- Update our board of directors or assemble an “advisory committee” or 4 people to meet a couple times a year in person and perhaps more frequently virtually to steer the club’s activities and directions to keep moving forward.
- We need a couple of people to volunteer to staff our table at the Share the View Gala.
- Fred really needs help with programs. Our members are encouraged to pass on ideas or to give programs themselves.

NEEDS: We need some people to step up and volunteer (the dreaded V word) to act as a marketing resource, be on the board or advisory committee, staff the Gala table and to develop and plan field trips. One person has stepped forward already to work the field trips. Please consider volunteering for these activities so we can keep UWPC alive and well.

Some follow up information:

Link to the UWPC Facebook page is

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/300104843339578>

Thanks to Patty Young for posting lots of fun items on the Facebook page, others are most welcome! While you are at it, submit stuff to the oururbanwildlife.org site as well !